

THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

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THE BLOWN FUSE

CLUB STATION W6CUS

VOLUME LXVII NUMBER 4

APRIL 2019

EBARC Meetings

April 12, 2019, 7:30 p.m.
"Try FLDigi"
"DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ



EBARC meets this month at El Sobrante United Methodist Church, 670
Applan Way, El Sobrante (enter parking opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.)

The Executive Board meets monthly before each general meeting. For the date,
time, & location, contact President Ken Fowler, at ko6no@comcast.net.

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THE EAST BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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El Cerrito, CA 94530

The Blown Fuse is published monthly by the East Bay Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and is free to its members. *The Blown Fuse* welcomes articles of interest to its members and amateur radio in general. *The Blown Fuse* reserves the right to edit or reject any material submitted. Material submitted becomes the property of *The Blown Fuse*. Permission is hereby granted to reproduce material printed herein provided proper acknowledgment is given. Editor: Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ

Deadline for May issue: Tues., Apr. 23rd

[Articles may be submitted by "snail" mail, by dictation over the 'phone 510-741-8227, or by e-mail to aa6xz@earthlink.net]

Temporary Meeting Place!

El Sobrante United Methodist Church
670 Appian Way, El Sobrante
Parking entrance is opposite 5156 Argyle Rd.
GPS coordinates: 37.981938, -122.294720

April 12th EBARC Meeting Martin Rothfield, W6MRR

This month we'll hear from "DJ" djovida, KJ6DJ about the Fast Light Digital modem application (FLDigi). It is a free and open-source program which allows an ordinary computer's sound card to be used as a simple two-way data modem. If you would like to try FLDigi, you can download and install the programs from <https://sourceforge.net/projects/fldigi/>. You should also load FLMsg.exe and Flamp.exe. (DJ doesn't have a Mac, so he won't be too much help with the configuration process on those machines.)

Many thanks to Michael McMillan, K6MCM, for preafrooding this month's *Blown Fuse*.

Phonetic Alphabet Changes

In a spirit of cooperation, the FCC has revised Part 97 to agree to the ITU's new proposal for making the phonetic alphabet more international. The new alphabet is below, with pronunciation aids for native speakers of English. The changes go into effect internationally on April 1st.

A	are
B	bdellium (DELL-EE-UM)
C	czar
D	Djakarta (JAH-KAR-TAH)
E	ewe
F	§
G	gnome
H	heir
I	Iwo-Jima (EE-WOH-GEE-MAH)
J	jalapeño (HAH-LA-PAY-NYOH)
K	knight
L	llama (YAH-MAH)
M	mnemonic
N	n'gana (ENG-AH-NAH)
O	Oaxaca (WAH-HAH-KAH)
P	pneumatic
Q	quesadilla (KAY-SAH-DEEL-YAH)
R	=E+I
S	sgraffito (ZAH-GRAH-FEE-TOH)
T	tsunami (SOO-NAH-MEE)
U	urgent
V	5 (Roman numeral)
W	wretched
X	xylophone
Y	Ypsilanti (Michigan city)
Z	Zsa Zsa

§ Note: the FCC has prohibited the "F" word as obscene (Part 97.0401)

[Editor's note: The foregoing article from about twenty years ago, by a half-dozen EBARC members, is brought to you again, courtesy of Lirpa Loof]

General Meeting Minutes

Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary

Opening: The General EBARC meeting at the El Sobrante United Methodist Church Friday, March 8, 2019 was called to order about 7:30 p.m. There was the usual round of introductions: name, call sign, QTH, and answering the question "What have you accomplished today?" Stayed with convalescing friend; picked up my 1962 Comet; rebuilt 2 motorcycle carburetors; worked on my new hobby, sewing & quilting; fed the birds; were among the many responses.

Minutes of the February general meeting, as published in *The Blown Fuse*, were approved by the members present. One new member present: Gary Elliott, WA6KCP.

Presentation: This month, the business meeting followed the monthly presentation. Tonight featured Rich Harrington, KN6FW, on transmitter hunting and radio direction finding. He brought many props and gave a very interesting and informative talk and demonstration of techniques used in T-Hunting. He recommends the book, *Transmitter Hunting; Radio Direction Finding Simplified* available online at AbeBooks, Amazon, etc. and possibly at HRO. Rich's T-Hunt pages: <http://www.rdf-sf.org/>

Program: Martin: We're set for April, some question about May, Field Day for June.

Hospitality: Craig: some snacks left, brownies are gone. Feed the kitty!

Membership: Sharon: The 2019 roster is out, and she'll send snail mail version to members who haven't received it already. Send any articles you want to write for *The Blown Fuse* – always seeking member input. Pictures and graphics should be in JPEG format.

Finance: Maria: Station Fund remained unchanged: \$1848.69. General Fund went from \$7,335.05 to \$7,451.02. Total: \$9,299.71.

Public Events/Education: Ken has a Tech class starting April 3rd at The El Cerrito Community Center on The Arlington, in conjunction with KARO-ECHO.

Rich Harrington: A 1-day Tech-to-General upgrade class is scheduled for the first Saturday in June on the USS Hornet – bring \$15 for the VE test to follow the class. This is not a "cram" class. Notes are available on <http://www.rdf-sf.org> - specifically here: <https://qsl.net/s/sfthunt/rdf-sf/library/>

Announcements: Rick Taft noted there may be problems with El Sobrante Library for an EBARC meeting place: spaces are now only available during regular operating hours. Ken said that we know about this and that the EBARC Board is in discussions about other possible meeting spaces. He noted that EBARC may fare much better if we can find a location closer to Berkeley, El Cerrito, and/or Oakland, because of the travel time for members to reach El Sobrante. Rick noted that the current location would cost \$500 per use, waived due to church membership of some EBARC members. Ken said he suspects we will be moving to a new meeting location within the year.

Rick also noted the *Art & Science of Baseball* event at Chabot Science Center, cost \$5, on Friday, April 5, from 6 to 10 p.m. More: <https://chabotspace.org/calendar/5-first-friday-the-science-of-baseball-partnership-with-oakland-as/>

Attendance: There were 17 signers of the Roster, more than that actually attended.

Closing: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned near 9 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, April 12, 2019.

Treasurer's Report **January 2019** **Maria Hauger, KI6ENT, Treasurer**

JANUARY GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance \$7,048.05

Income:

New member: KK6ZPL \$30.00
Renewals Individual: KE6RS, AG6RF, N1REU,
and KM6LJB 120.00
Renewals Family: KK6ZPM/KJ6WSS,
W6AKB/KB6LHP/KG6LHL/KI6ELP,
KE6MRH/KI7FQ, and K6JEB 140.00
Refreshment Kitty: 27.00
Total General Income: \$317.00

Disbursements:

Bank deposit correction \$30.00
Total General Disbursements \$30.00
Ending Balance \$7,335.05

(portion as petty cash (\$40.00)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

JANUARY STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: \$1,848.69
Total Station Income: 0.00
Total Station Expenditures 0.00
Ending Balance \$1,848.69

Treasurer's Report

February 2019

Maria Hauger, KI6ENT, Treasurer

FEBRUARY GENERAL FUND¹

Beginning Balance \$7,335.05

Income:

Renewals Individual: W6WTJ, N6JGC,
KK6MO, and WS6V \$120.00
Refreshment Kitty: 15.00
HRO ad for 2019 200.00
Total General Income: \$335.00

Disbursements:

Refreshments (Craig) \$79.03
Post Office box rental 140.00
Total General Disbursements \$219.03
Ending Balance \$7,451.02

(portion as petty cash (\$40.00)

¹\$100 earmarked for youth scholarships.

FEBRUARY STATION FUND

Beginning Balance: \$1,848.69
Total Station Income: 0.00
Total Station Expenditures 0.00
Ending Balance \$1,848.69

Technician License Prep Class **Ken Fowler, KO6NO**

A free class to prepare for the Technician Amateur Radio license will be held 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. for 11 Wednesdays starting, April 3rd. It will meet at Arlington Park Clubhouse, 1120 Arlington Blvd., El Cerrito. The textbook is *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, Fourth Edition*. Books will be available for purchase at the class.

FCC examinations and license applications will be administered at the final class session on June 12th by the EBARC Volunteer Examiners for a fee of \$15.

Go to www.ko6no.com and click "Register" or send email to ken.fowler1@comcast.net.

Field Trip May 11th to KPH **Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB**

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club has organized a trip to the Historical Maritime radio station KPH. See the Maritime Radio Historical Society's website, <http://www.radiomarine.org>. They welcome us to "sit the circuit" at K6KPH. No license is required, just competency in Morse. If you have a commercial

radiotelegraph license you can sit the circuit at KPH too. In both cases they will endorse your operator's license with their special stamps. Be prepared to take a step back into radio history on Saturday, May 11, 2019!

Plan to leave Berkeley around 7 a.m. in order to make it up to the transmitter site at 451 Mesa Road, Bolinas, by 0900 for "Services of the Church of the Continuous Wave," where pastry and coffee are served. The KPH press broadcast begins at 1000. Members of the Operations Department usually depart by 1100 to activate KPH, KFS and K6KPH at the receiving station at 17400 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Point Reyes. The transmitting staff remains at Bolinas.

Please RSVP by May 9th. If you need to a ride, let me know, so we can get you there (carpool site TBD)! If you're interested, contact me at (510) 701-0234 or at mathisono@gmail.com. I need to know if you need a ride, and to work out a final head count. Bring food, and your keys.

Balloon @ Mini Maker Faire **Martin Rothfield, W6MRR**

The East Bay Mini Maker Faire is October 27 this year - no worries - Pacificon is October 18 -20. We are looking for engaging demonstrations for attendees.

I am planning on a high altitude balloon for the Faire. It will be a very small balloon and just have an APRS beacon as a tracker. I was thinking about doing a throw-away, but I might add a "cash register" oscillator for the local RDF group to find the tracker. I have most of the pieces for an APRS beacon, so the cost is mostly the balloon and gas. It should be under \$200. I am hoping that I can get EBARC members to chip in for that.

I hope to make our display as interactive as possible. Mathison has suggested that we

allow attendees to attach their name to the payload. We can announce the launch for 11 or 12 and have a count down. Attendees can stop by our table to check on the progress.

The Maker Faire is a great way to introduce the public to ham radio and possibly to attract members. Do you have anything home brew to show off or other ideas for the Faire? It's never too early to plan.

Alameda County CERT **Todd Teachout, KM6HFU**

If you live in Alameda County, you might be interested in this class. The Alameda County Fire Department is offering an opportunity to participate in a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training academy! Participants will complete 18 hours of Community Emergency Response Team training, which will include both classroom instruction and hands-on training. Class registration is free and open to community members who are 18 years old or older. Teenagers between 14 to 17 years old may participate in the training if accompanied by a parent/guardian. This training will be held at the Emeryville Center of Community Life, 1100 47th St, Emeryville, and will run from March 26th through April 11th on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. To register please visit www.acfdcert.eventbrite.com.

For more information, please check out the event flyer at <http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/DocumentCenter/View/11327/Community-Emergency-Response-Team-Training-Emeryville-Flyer-2019?bidId=>, or visit www.acgov.org/fire.

Definition of caterpallor (n): The color you turn after finding half a worm in the fruit you're eating.

Sonoma Hamfest

I would like to invite you to the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club (VOMARC) annual HAMFEST on April 27th. The location is the Vets building, 126 1st St W, Sonoma. The event features a swap meet, delicious breakfast, VE session, demonstration stations, prizes, and much more. Please visit VOMARC at <http://vomarc.org/> for more info and to download a flyer. Hope to see you there.

Jim, K6UUW
President, VOMARC

Future Bay Area Events

- Current Bay Area Public Service Events: See www.ebarc.org, click on "Current Events", then scroll to "Calendar of Bay Area Ham Radio Public Service Events."
- EBARC, ORCA, and ARCA sponsor joint ARRL VEC Amateur Radio Test Sessions quarterly at 9 a.m. in the Media Room, 1605 Martin Luther King Jr. Way (at 16th St.), Oakland. The remaining test dates for 2019 are Apr 28, Jul 28, and Oct 27. The fee for 2019 is still \$15. Info: 510-918-4627 or 510-741-8227.
- CoCoCo ACS Training: Details from Kathy Branstetter, KI6TZE, kathbran@well.com, www.cocoacs.org, or via RACES net, 6:45 p.m., Thursdays on 145.11 MHz.

The East Bay Amateur Radio Club, founded in 1947, is a California non-profit organization of amateur radio operators in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. The club is open to anyone interested in amateur radio. Annual dues are \$30 for individual membership, \$35 for a family membership, and \$10 for students K-12. For information, send email to ebarc.w6cus@gmail.com, contact any EBARC officer, see Web page www.ebarc.org, or write EBARC, P.O. Box 1393, El Cerrito, CA 94530. You can also follow us on Twitter using @w6cus, or on Facebook's "East Bay Amateur Radio Club."

2019 East Bay Amateur Radio Club Executive Committee

Ken Fowler, KO6NO, President	222-0830
Martin Rothfield, W6MRR, 1 st VP - Program Chair.....	705-1199
Craig Hauger, KI6EMD, 2 nd VP - Hospitality.....	672-8382
Sharon Primbsch, AA6XZ, 3 rd VP - Membership / <i>Blown Fuse</i> Editor.....	741-8227
Robin Spalding, N6RLS, Secretary / Twitter	528-1144
Maria Hauger, KI6ENT, Treasurer / Finance Committee Chair	672-8382
Mathison Ott, KJ6DZB, Member-at-Large	701-0234
Todd Teachout, KM6HFU, Member-at-Large.....	799-6051

2019 EBARC's Other Committee Heads and Contacts

W6CUS Trustee; Jack Burris, K6JEB.....	415-305-2547
Club Station Manager; Stanton Gleason, KD6SWU.....	385-4044
Field Day & Education.....	
Webmaster, Facebook, & Meetup; Martin Rothfield, W6MRR	705-1199
Social & Digital Committees Chair	
RFI Committee Chair.....	
Historian	

AMATEUR RADIO NETS

NET	DAYS	LOCAL TIME	FREQ, MHZ
West Contra Costa EMCOMM Net	Thurs	1845 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
KARO/ECHO ARES/RACES(ACS) Net	Thurs	~1900 simplex	146.415
EBARC "Explore Net" (HF)	Mon	1930 (USB)	28.425
NALCO RACES/ARES Net	Thurs	1915 (PL 131.8+)	440.900
Oakland ARES Emergency Communications Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 77-)	146.880
Contra Costa Communications Club Net	Thurs	1930 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Tech Net	Thurs	2000 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
"Over the Hill Gang" Breakfast/Commute Net	Mo-Fr	0710 (PL 82.5-)	145.110
Northern Calif. Net VHF Session (traffic)	Daily	1930 (PL 107.2-)	145.410
"QRM Net"	Tues	1930 (PL 82.5-)	224.300
9 a.m. Talk Net	Mo-Fr	0900 (PL 100.0-)	145.230
Youth Net	Sat	1400 (PL 100.0-)	145.230

ACS West CoCoCo: Kathy Branstetter, KI6TZE, kathbran@well.com.

Frequencies: #1=145.110-, #2=147.570s. ACS details are at www.cocoacs.org [dead link?]

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